During 2004-05 and 2005-06 the raw jute crop was perceived to be short and the price of raw jute ruled above minimum support price. As such JCI and Cooperatives could purchase very little quantity. The farmers have received price above MSP for the market.

(c) No case of any distress sale has been reported in Bihar. The JCI is committed to purchase whatever quantity of raw jute is offered by farmers to it at (MSP). MSP is being declared every year and the same has been given wide publicity for information to all concerned including jute farmers.

Handloom clusters in Tamil Nadu

1010. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up handloom clusters in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the clusters will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir, the Government of India does not propose to establish any cluster in Tamil Nadu. Rather the Government of India, under the Integrated handloom Cluster Development Scheme, proposes to develop 20 handloom clusters throughout the country covering over 5000 looms under each cluster at a cost of Rs. 2.00 crore per cluster. Three such existing clusters at Tiruvannamalai, Trichy and Kurinjipadi in the State of Tamil Nadu have already been identified and the Implementing Agencies for these clusters have commenced the work in the field.

Apparel training and design centres in Tamil Nadu

1011. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is proposed to set up Apparel Training and Design Centres at Madurai, Coimbatore and Salem in Tamil Nadu considering huge textile industry presence there;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) is running an Apparel Training and Design Centre (ATDC) at Avinashi

in Coimbatore District of Tamil Nadu. At present, ATDCs are not proposed to be set up at Madurai and Salem.

The Council is also running at ATDC centre at Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Tirupur and Chennai are major garment production centres of Tamil Nadu and, therefore, ATDCs have already been set up at these two locations.

Assistance to weavers of Maharashtra

1012. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details and the number of proposals submitted by Maharashtra Government related to textile issues to the Union Government, including necessary assistance to weavers of Maharashtra, during the last two years; and

(b) Government's response thereto, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) & (b) The Schemes being implemented in the Textile Sector are neither State nor community specific and the funds under the schemes are released to various implementing agencies after evaluating the viability of the proposals received. Some of the important schemes being implemented for the development and growth of handlooms are as follows:—

* Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana;
* Handloom Export Scheme;
* Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme;
* Weaver's Welfare Scheme;
* Bunkar Bima Yojana (Revised as Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana in 2005-06).
* Integrated Handloom Training Project Scheme.

In the handloom sector, during 2004-05 & 2005-06, Rs. 60.71 lakhs and Rs. 43.85 lakhs respectively were released to various implementing agencies in the State of Maharashtra.

Textile export after abolition of quota

1013. SHRI SURENDRA LATH:
Ms. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) after the abolition of quota system by European Union, how much has been the export of textile in last three years;